
THE CALIFORNIA ALMANAC OF EMISSIONS AND AIR QUALITY
— 2005 Edition —

This almanac was prepared and published by the staff of the

Planning and Technical Support Division
California Air Resources Board

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This document has been reviewed and approved by the staff of the California Air Resources Board. Approval does not signify that the contents necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Air Resources Board.

A Note from the Chairman



Welcome to the California Air Resources Board's Almanac of Emissions & Air Quality - 2005 Edition. This document gives the reader an excellent overview of the levels of air pollutants in different areas of our State, the sources of these pollutants, and the progress being made in reducing them. Air pollution is one of our State's most serious problems.

There are several reasons for this. California's population now numbers around 37 million and grows with each passing day. As the human population grows, so do the number of motor vehicles

and the number of miles these vehicles are driven. This growth is important because motor vehicles contribute about 67% of our air pollution.

A second factor contributing to our air pollution problems is California's geography. The most heavily populated areas of our state are valleys or basins hemmed in by mountains. This geography works with a summer climate of hot, stagnant air to trap pollutants in the most heavily populated areas. In addition, the phenomena of global warming may also be adding to our air pollution problems. This is because higher temperatures can speed up the photochemical processes that produce ozone, one of the most health-damaging constituents of smog.

Though amazing progress has been made in reducing our state's air pollution (today's passenger car produces about 98% less air pollution than similar vehicles from the early 1970s), it remains a persistent public health problem. The Air Resources Board greatly appreciates the support California's citizens have given in the fight against air pollution.

I hope you find this Almanac informative and helpful. The Preface lists e-mail and telephone contacts for your questions or comments. For more information about air pollution, ways to combat it, or the Air Resources Board, visit our web site at www.arb.ca.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan C. Lloyd".

CHAIRMAN,
CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Preface

This almanac was prepared and published by the Air Resources Board (ARB) staff to aid air quality professionals and the public in evaluating air quality in California. The ARB, as part of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), is the State board responsible for achieving and maintaining healthful air quality in California. This responsibility is shared with local air districts and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

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This is the sixth edition of this almanac which is updated annually as additional air quality and emission inventory data become available. If you find errors or have suggestions for improvements, please let us know. For general issues or issues related to air quality data, contact Paul Cox at (916) 327-7609 or pcox@arb.ca.gov. For issues related to emissions data, contact Andy Alexis at (916) 323-1085 or aalexis@arb.ca.gov.

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